

# GAZEBO EXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • SEPTEMBER 2010

## COMMUNITY EAGERLY AWAITS WORLD-CLASS LINCOLN CENTER

When Nancy Crowel went out to gather signatures in support of an upgrade at Lincoln Center earlier this year, she envisioned what a world-class community center could look like.

On a crystal-clear evening in August, she saw plans for a facility that surpassed anything she could have imagined.

"This is the realization of a dream that many of us have had — to see Lincoln

Center developed into a community center with all of the amenities," she said.

### PARDON OUR DUST

Parks Superintendent Alex Brown said the staff is doing everything possible to minimize disruptions during construction.

**INFO:** If you have questions, please call Parks & Rec at (219) 838-0114.

From the east entrance to the converted schoolhouse, Crowel watched as dozens of pee-wee football and soccer players took to their respective fields while parents

returning from work hurried in to gather their offspring from one of the on-site daycare centers.

Others stopped to talk shop and sports and catch up on the events of the day after finishing an early evening walk.

"I have lived in Highland for 40 years. My children attended Lincoln School," she said. "I have long thought that the town deserved a better community center than what we had and now, we have the chance and the support to make it all happen."



The Lincoln Center groundbreaking ceremony gets a 13-shovel salute from town officials. They are, from left: Bernie Zemen, Town Council; Dan Vassar, Town Council; Brian Novak, Town Council; Konnie Kuiper, Town Council; Dennis Tobin, Park Board; Carlos Abutro, Park Board; Larry Vassar, Park Board; Vicki Crowel, Park Board; Mark Herak, Highland Town Council president; Frank Jones, of the building corporation; Rhett Tauber, town attorney; Alex Brown, parks superintendent; and Michael Griffin, clerk-treasurer.



Two-year-old Matthew Greco picks out toys in the transition room at Kids' First Academy at Lincoln Center. The Grecos say upgrades planned for the facility are going to enhance their quality of life.

As the parents of three young boys, Joe and Quyen Greco can't wait for construction to begin on the revamped center.

"We are really excited about the changes that are going to be taking place over the next year at Lincoln Center," he said. "This is going to be a huge benefit to the community. Residents will have the opportunity to have a better lifestyle. It will not only be more modern, but equipped for the lifestyles of people today — the most up-to-date fitness equipment, exercise rooms and an expanded roster of classes."

With two of the boys in daycare at Lincoln Center, the Grecos know construction will be a challenge.

"We really don't know what is going to happen with all of that at this point, but we will soon enough," Joe Greco said. "In the long-term, this project is going to make Highland a nicer community to live in and that makes it all totally worthwhile." 🐾

## TAKING IT BACK

Highland police and the Drug Enforcement Administration are coordinating a one-day effort to remove unwanted pharmaceuticals and narcotics from the community.

The collection is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 25 at the Police Department, 3333 Ridge Road.

Police will also accept weapons and ammunition for destruction on that day. If you are unable to participate Sept. 25, you can make arrangements by calling police at (219) 838-3184.

## YOUR COUNCILMAN



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## NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

Send your suggestions to:



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# CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

## NINE-WEEK PROGRAM TAKES PARTICIPANTS BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE HIGHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

If you have ever had an itch to know what it's like to be a police officer or what goes into being in law enforcement, here's your chance.

Registration is under way for the next Citizen's Police Academy, which begins Sept. 28. You must be at least 18 years old and a resident or owner of a business in Highland to enroll in the nine-week program that gives the community a more in-depth knowledge of the Highland Police Department.

Instruction is comprehensive and features a new topic for each class. Topics include:

- Overview and tour of the police department
- Lake County courts and prosecutors office
- Gangs and dangerous drugs
- Police employees assistance program
- Firearms training simulator
- School resource officer program
- Criminal investigation/evidence collections
- Ride-along program
- K-9 cops
- Police bicycle program
- 911 dispatch center
- Police chaplain program

Police department personnel and guest speakers provide information and plenty of opportunity for questions and answers.



### HOW TO ENROLL

Applications are available at the police department, 3333 Ridge Road or online at [www.highlandpolice.com](http://www.highlandpolice.com).

Classes are from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Sept. 28 at the South Fire Station, 2647 — 45th Street.

### FOR MORE INFO:

Call Sgt. John Banasiak or Acting Cpl. Shawn Anderson at (219) 838-3184.

Instruction consists of lectures, tours and demonstrations. Students will also have the opportunity to ride along with the officers.

Police Chief Pete Hojnicky said the goal is to provide enough information to the public to dispel misconceptions and improve communication and working relationships between the community and police.

"We hope graduates of the academy will be more aware and better informed about how the Highland Police Department operates and will recommend it to their friends, co-workers and families that they have been part of this rewarding program," he said.

## NOW WE'RE COOKIN' WITH CABBAGE!

If you have a favorite cabbage recipe you would like to share, organizers of Highland's first-ever Cabbage Fest are looking for you.

From coleslaws to ethnic delicacies, the Cabbage Fest recipe contest rewards the best local cabbage dishes.

All you have to do is cook up your family's favorite recipe and bring it to the festival where it will be judged by a panel of cabbage enthusiasts.

Judging will be based on originality, creativity and, above all, taste!

"Highland's heritage is tied to the cabbage and we think a contest to determine the best cabbage recipes is a natural fit," said Kim

### RECIPE CONTEST DETAILS

All dishes must be submitted after 5 p.m. Oct. 16 to the Special Events Committee Tent on the grounds at Main Square Park.

- Cabbage must be the star ingredient.
- Entries are limited to Highland residents.
- Prizes will be rewarded.

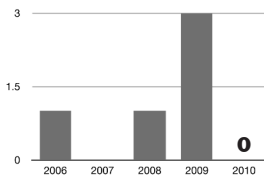
**INFO:** Call Kim Kosmas at (219) 922-6107.

Kosmas, a member of the fest committee. "We are hoping for a great turn-out. There are literally hundreds of recipes that are made with cabbage."

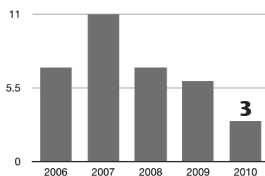
# CRIME DOWN IN TOWN

Six months into 2010, police report declines in nearly every category of criminal activity and no murders. Police Chief Pete Hojnicky believes the community has played a huge role in effecting change. "Our department and Volunteers in Policing (VIPs) are ever vigilant in looking for ways to further reduce the number of crimes in Highland," he said. "Working together, participating in Crime Watch programs and simply being watchful in our neighborhoods has made life better for all of us."

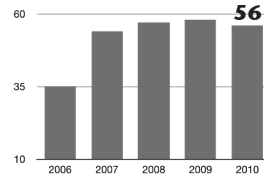
## RAPE



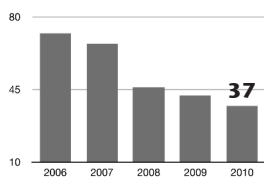
## ROBBERY



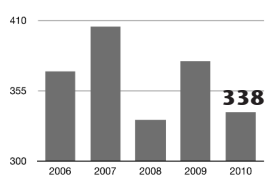
## ASSAULTS



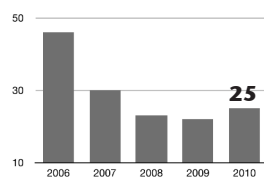
## BURGLARY



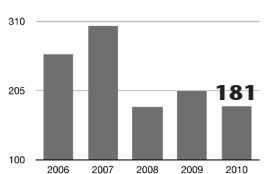
## LARCENY (THEFT)



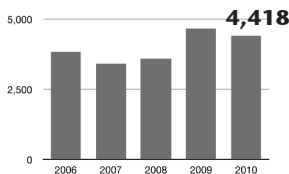
## VEHICLE THEFT



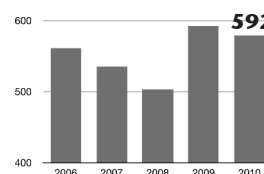
## VANDALISM



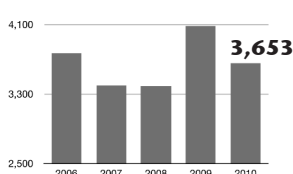
## WARNINGS



## ARRESTS



## CITATIONS



## TOWN COUNCIL UPDATING ORDINANCES, FINES

The council is updating town ordinances and enacting fines for those who are found to violate them. Under consideration are:

### NOISE ORDINANCE

Violations that disrupt the quality of life for those in proximity of the alleged noise.

- First offense: \$50
- Second offense: \$100

### ABANDONED VEHICLES

Vehicles that are not in working order and left outside of a garage or other structure.

- Fine: \$100

### GENERAL OFFENSES

Violations in this category are being updated to include fines for curfew violations and skateboarding in prohibited areas.

- Skateboarding: \$45
- Curfew - first offense: \$100 if curfew is the only charge

### ANIMAL VIOLATIONS

Violations in this chapter reference loose and barking dogs, vaccinations, licensing and animal waste.

- Dog running loose - first offense: \$50
- Dog running loose - Second offense and each offense thereafter: \$100
- Dog barking - first offense: \$50
- Dog barking - Second offense and each offense thereafter: \$100
- Animal vaccine violation: \$50
- Animal waste violation: \$50
- Animal license violation: \$50

## BUSINESS PICKS UP ALONG CLINE AS ROAD REOPENS TO TRAFFIC


No one was happier than the Scheeringa family when Cline Avenue reopened in mid-August allowing easy access for those looking for a taste of summer — juicy red tomatoes and super-sweet, white-and-yellow corn.

"The first week the road was reopened, it was still pretty slow," Barbara Scheeringa said. "The second week was better but nothing near what we normally sell in a week in the summer. There was so much construction around us this year and that really hurt."

Scheeringa had nothing but praise for the

town and for Gatlin Plumbing & Heating, one of the main contractors on the project.

"Gatlin did everything possible to keep us accessible," she said. "They understood what we were up against. I think they would have stood on their heads if we had asked them to."

Two lanes of Cline are now smooth ribbons of asphalt between Ridge Road and 45th Street. Construction will continue throughout the fall to complete the project. Intermittent lane closures are planned but the road will remain open to traffic. 



"Saturdays in mid-September, fall fest begins," Barbara Scheeringa said. "We hope people remember to come enjoy the day."



**HIGHLAND BLOOD DRIVE**

If you are at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 lbs, are in good general health, you may be eligible to donate blood. Please bring your donor card or positive identification with you when you come to donate.

**WHEN:** 1 to 7 p.m. **Sept. 7**

**WHERE:** Lincoln Center

**INFO:** Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule your blood donation appointment.

**KIDS PLAY DAY 2010**

Highland Parks and Recreation is hosting a free Play Day for kids to get together for outdoor games and activities. The Play Day is one of more than 1,000 across the country to help save play! The program is a national celebration of the importance of play in the lives of children. Parents can visit the Highland Street Market while the kids play games.

**WHEN:** 10 a.m. to noon **Sept. 18**

**WHERE:** Main Square Park

**INFO:** Call Ruth Hashu-Roorda or Angie Gora at (219) 838-0114 or register online at <http://playday.kaboom.org>.

**SUMMER'S END CAR CRUISE**

Attention all hot rods, muscle cars and vintage show car owners! Join us for Highland's first end-of-summer car cruise featuring live music and a complete engine rebuild.

**WHEN:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Sept. 19**

**WHERE:** Highway Avenue between Fifth Street and Kennedy Avenue. Enter on Fifth Street at Highway.

**INFO:** Call Town Council President Mark Herak at (219) 838-0126 or email [mherak@highland.in.gov](mailto:mherak@highland.in.gov).

**FALL ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW**

Wondering what's hot in handmade goods? Be the first on your block to know when you visit the Fall Arts and Crafts Show. This is one of the first shows of the season that consistently features the finest in crafts. It's a great opportunity to get a jump on the holidays with these one-of-a-kind offerings.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Oct. 2** and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Oct. 3**

**WHERE:** Lincoln Center

**INFO:** Call (219) 838-0114 or visit [www.highlandparks.org](http://www.highlandparks.org)



**MAIN  
SQUARE  
PARK**

**SEPTEMBER 10-12**

The Midwest Zest Fest has it all ... free admission, free parking, fun carnival rides, your favorite festival food, arts & crafts, live music, a 5K Race, and the crowning of a king and queen. And if that's not enough, stop at the Sour Note Karaoke Bar in the Beer Tent to whet your whistle and sing a tune. It's three days and over five acres packed full of fun! What a great way to say farewell to Summer!

**AMUSEMENT RIDES**

The carnival rides range from small rides for preschool children to large rides for teens and adults. Wristband Days allow folks to ride all they want for \$15 from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

**FREE ENTERTAINMENT**

A variety of entertainment is featured every day on the Gazebo Stage in the center of the park. From live bands to contests, there is something that appeals to almost every taste at the festival.

**LEMON KING & QUEEN**

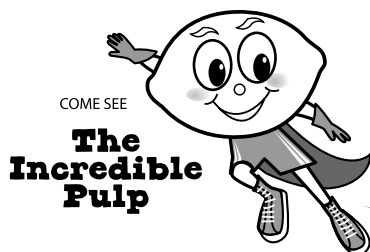
The 2010 Lemon King and Queen will lead a conga line through the park following the Lemon King and Queen Ceremony in their Royal Lemon Carriage, leading anyone who wants to tag along!

**FOOD, ARTS & CRAFTS**

More than two dozen food vendors serve your favorite carnival food and dozens of craft vendors bring a variety of hand-crafted creations and home-based products.

**SOUR NOTE KARAOKE BAR**

Beer and other libations are served in a tented area. Stop by the Sour Note Karaoke Bar and sing a tune! If you didn't make American Idol, don't worry. You're welcome here!



Check [www.midwestzestfest.com](http://www.midwestzestfest.com) for updates!